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Abstract

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PRICED CATALOGUE ON APPLICATION.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, 31st August, 1883.

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TELEPHONE No. 12.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, OCTOBER 9TH, 1888.

THE case between the Canton Customs Authorities and the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company has been fought out in the Canton Consular

Court and has ended in the total disclosure of the former. Any one who read the report of the proceeding in our columns yesterday morning must have been struck with surprise that the Commissioner should ever have sanctioned the bringing of what the fluent Attorney-General so appropriately termed "this poor, miserable, solitary, paltry, trumped, trivial case." The facts are briefly these: On the 18th ultimo a small quantity of smokable opium was found by the Customs officer on board the steamer *Fishak*. The Commissioner claimed that the master was liable to a fine of £10, 50p, but offered to take £10, 100 on condition that his decision was not annulled against him.

offer was not accepted by the Company. Thereupon the Captain was charged in the Consular Court with presenting a false manifest, and on this charge he was tried on Saturday. The Consul delivered his decision yesterday morning, dismissing the charge. We have not the text of the judgment before us, but only the result as received by telegram. Mr. ALABASTER could have had no difficulty in making up his mind, but in view of the importance of the precedent the case creates he presumably wished to set out

The particulars of the preliminary negotiations and the offer of the Commission to accept a composition did not come out in evidence, but they have an important bearing

On the real question involved in the case we have said that any one reading the report must have been struck with surprise that the Commissioner should ever have sanctioned the imposing of such a charge. But in a case tempting to impose a penalty on one who is so spiritlessly without trial by the Consul Mr. Warren was no singular. At other ports fines have been tried under similar circumstances, and the cases were relied on by Mr. Sizer, the Deputy Commissioner, in conducting the case against Captain Goetz. On a coasting steamer thirty or thirty-five sailors, where her duty is to be twenty or twenty-four hours, a small quantity of amop smuggled by some of the crew found on board; this is reported to the Commissioner, who sends for the captain, and imposes a fine of one or two hundred dollars; the captain knows that to contest it, he will delay his ship, and be condemned

pays the amount. The Attorney-General on Saturday used the word "squeeze" in connection with the Customs, and the stigma seems not altogether undeserved in view of proceedings like the above. The provisions of the Treaty with reference to the suppression of smuggling and the imposition of a penalty for making a false manifest were never intended to apply to cases like that of the *Potomac*, where every possible facility was afforded the Customs, where there was not even a suggestion on the part of the prosecution that the master had any knowledge of the contraband being on board, and where there had been lack of reasonable precautions to prevent its being brought on board. The ignominy of smugglers is more verbal, and to hold the master of a steamer

The British barque *Carrier Dove*, Kobe New York, put in here on Sunday. During recent bad weather the vessel sustained considerable damage, and the Captain was seriously injured, breaking his leg in two places. Immediately on the arrival of the vessel he was taken to the Government Civil Hospital.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS"]
LONDON, 5th October
AUSTRIA AND GERMANY
The Emperor of Germany has arrived in Vienna and been cordially received by the Emperor of Austria.
At a banquet held in His Majesty's honor the Emperor of Austria, in his speech, dwelt on the friendly alliance of Austria and Germany which the Emperor of Germany repaid by recognizing the sentiments of His Majesty of Austria.
THE SITUATION AT SUAKIM.
Intelligence from Suakim reports the tranquillity and that the garrison had been reinforced.
[FROM SINGAPORE PAPERS.]

SUAKIM.
Surz, 27th September.

The rebels surrounding Suakim have reinforced and continue their attacks.

BOCONANALAND.

It has been proposed by the Cape Government to annex Boconanaland.

THE PUNJOM AND SUNGHIE DISTRICT SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY LIMITED.

The third ordinary yearly meeting of the Company was held at the residence of Mr. J. A. Stevenson for the purpose of receiving the report and statement of the Company. The

were present.—Messrs W. E. Brodie (Chairman), E. L. Woodin, D. Gillies, and T. E. D. (Directors); H. Marks, Gonsalves, F. J. Ba, J. C. da Cunha, A. P. da Costa, E. L. To, J. B. Coughtrie, E. B. Jory, J. Thurburn, Lyall, W. O. Murray, E. Jones Hughes, S. G. A. G. Stokes; E. W. Rattar, A. S. Cohen, Leggo, B. K. Leigh, E. George, A. Denon, Apar, E. Renter, G. Holmes, Hon. P. Byrie, Lightwood, E. George, A. O'D. Gourdin, secretary, &c.

The CHAIRMAN said—The minutes of the meeting should naturally be read now, but as they were published in the papers and they are voluminous, I do not think it is necessary to read it. The report has also been read.

For some time, and I think that loss more than
taken as time. The next thing is to come
and see whether you require to be passed. I
only have to say that I have been anxious
to answer the enquiries as far as I am able. My
Letters have been received from time to
from the mines and meetings have been con-
sidered. I have been very busy, but I have
received a week or ten days ago dated the
August. Those received now are under date
September. One is a letter, the other a
general report, No. 8. The letter, I think, has
been seen by all the shareholders and should
be read.

The Secretary then read the following let-
ter from Mr. Beecher, the engineer at the mine:
Continues—My last report to you was
dated the 10th inst. and I have since then
in honor to receive your favor, numbered 15, 17, 19,
18 of respective dates 8th, 9th, 10th and 25th in
which you have been very kind to write
daily noted. To answer them in order:
Letter No. 15—On some former occasion
I have written to you that I had been
employed by the R. M. D. to examine the

I proceed therefore to the topics of my Report III, handed to you and the shareholders herewith, would gladly have deferred writing this for another month, had I not been so anxious to let you have some account of our doing for the year, and to give somewhat unsatisfactory, and I must beg your indulgence to await more accurate statements the mill returns until we have completely closed. My next report therefore will be of greater importance, and perhaps will follow at a shorter interval than this.

Measuring the distance between us is so that the two months still remaining for me to

ple my promised task will have elapsed before I can get your answer, it seems to me imperative that we should be prepared for every contingency and between ourselves have a clear understanding of the present critical state of affairs. It is almost hopeless for me to attempt to express a few words my full opinion of the value and prospects of your property. Had I carried out an entire professional programme I should, within the space of six months (for which only I engaged in your service) have elaborated an exhaustive report. Instead,

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

provide much. It is for you to direct, and you think it would be better Mr. [redacted] can be written to and told that he should do the best he possibly can within \$100,000 dollars. Some one remarked that \$100,000 should be issued. This was provided for, I think, in the act. I think it was provided, I think, in contemplation that it would be required by the directors, at first. I don't suppose such provision would have been made had not we expected it might be wanted, and these circumstances, I think, authorized it, should

It need not be raised, he said, but could be raised in very small sums as required. He did not think the amount would exceed \$100,000. It might be right to mention that the board thought it did not require a vote. It was well for shareholders to think over the matter for one or two weeks and when they next met to be prepared. We have no wish to be shareholders into anything we may think is not in the best interests of the company. I propose that the accounts be passed.

Mr. RUSTEN seconded.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. COVENEY then proposed, and Mr. GOV. WOODIN seconded, that the following be adopted: Resolved, That the accounts be carried *in rem.*

On the motion of Mr. MACHADO, seconded by Mr. MURRAY, Mr. W. G. Brodie was re-elected to the Board.

Mr. A. V. STOKES proposed that the name of Mr. T. B. Davis as a director be struck from the list.

Mr. LEIGH seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. LYALL proposed that Messrs. Coxon and Mr. Henderson be re-elected auditors.

Mr. TOMLIN seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. P. BYRNE:—It has been suggested that perhaps the pump required could be from the Dock Company.

Mr. GILLIES:—I think for the present the Dock Company could supply a pump large enough. Mr. Beecher is, of course, the best person to get the point of this, but by worth while to communicate with him to see what kind of a pump he requires.

The CHAIRMAN—I thank you for your remarks, and I thank the ladies for their advice and counsel. There is nothing more to say from this side. I do hope and believe we will have such a report from Mr. Bell that will justify me in proceeding that will dispel sanguine expectations, and put you into my mind that you will not grudge to see what is wanted. The money will not be suddenly, and it was not unlooked for. There are only 10 heads of stamps, and not more. No such plant was contemplated for working plant. If money was lost, at least it need not be squandered further.

The meeting then closed.

POLICE COURT.
8th October.

BEFORE MR. H. E. POLLOCK.

THE MURDEROUS CONDUCT OF THE "VAL"
Dhoblah, Omar, Kwak Akasi, and Choo were charged, on the information of S. Andrews, chief officer of the *Yorana*, with guilty of malicious conduct on board that ship on the 5th instant. The head fireman was included in the charge.

The *Yorana* is registered on behalf of the fourth, and fifth defendants.

His Worship:—What view do you want to take of this case, Mr. Andrew?

Mr. Andrew:—Well, we regard it as a serious matter. The *Yorana* is a passenger ship on ships trading to Japan, and we fellows are aware that I think that a most serious offence should be brought them. It is a

Mr. Caldwell—Would it not be more correct or really proper that if the fifth day is to be included in this charge, the affidavit which was taken on Saturday should cover it to him?

His Worship—Certainly.

The evidence was then read and given by Mr. Caldwell to cross-examine the witnesses on it.

—Sdwy G. D. Andrews, cross-examined—We have just transferred our oar to the new boat, and we have not been here and took over her oar in exchange was on the 27th of September last. The defendant part of that oar. I had no knowledge of the boat before that. I first received

mation of a disturbance when I was coming
 of my cabin on Saturday morning. My
 tion was attracted by a large crowd of
 the forepart of the ship. They were
 As I came out of my cabin the first
 fondant did not speak to me.
 spoke to me. There were some men
 ling around there. I could not swear if
 fondant was not one of these men. I was

swear that I did not speak. I felt nobody
my sleeve as I came out. I did not know
going on. I could not pick him out as be-
of the man. Of my own knowledge
William Barnes Storer, an American
—Barnett being storekeeper on board. I
man and second standing. This is my first
charge. He has been running on the
line for some time. Prior to the transfer
from the *Bothers* I knew some of the
tween Kobe and Nagasaki. When
examined on Saturday I was quite sure I
"I was told that he, when he saw the
"I said the man required?" "Yes,"
"Yes," I was quite sure. I did not
"I was quite sure," I said. "I was
man. During the time the affair was going
saw fifth defendant. He was on the upper
"I was quite sure," I said. "I was
see through. I could not swear to the
his feet, nor can I. Any whether he
foreman's cap on. Before the row, I

Before I. This necessitated working on the lofere I could put a big rise on the was drawn up again and the work started. I was then sent to the fifth boat with a "chinese" from the bank and the Chinese Clinese at the forestale.

On Chung, P. R. No. 308, said—Y morning about 7.45 a.m. I went about the boat. I saw a Chinese man and there. The chief mate sent for the I heard the chief officer ask the storeroomkeeper what he had seen the man, and the storeroomkeeper replied that he had seen him. Afterwards the man was sent to the storeroom. The former was the fifth defendant. He was sent to my charge by the chief officer. I had first engineer say to the storeroomkeeper, "the man."

I examined. The chief engineer was the head man, and he was the storeroomkeeper who said "this is the man."

Mr. Gidwell—I don't propose to call any more witnesses. I call the witness on looking at Section 24 of the Merchant Shipping Act, following that on which the pro-

are charged. I find the following words—
"the commission of any offences enumerated
in the said act, shall be deemed to have
been made in the official log book and the
oath of the master."
If the ship is at the time in port, be-
fore her departure therefrom shall be furnished
with a copy of such entry, and have the
same distinctly signed by the master, who
may thereupon make a reply thereto, and
think it, and in any subsequent
proceedings the entries hereinafore re-
ferred to shall, if practicable, be produced or proved
in default of such production or proof, or
if the same shall be proved to be false, to
be evidence of the offence." Now
does any entry or proof has been put in
prosecution, and I take it that the discre-
tionary powers of refusal would apply to cases
where it is not possible to produce the log
book. I understand that the ship was in
port, and the offence took place in port, and
the reason why the log book should not be pro-
duced in evidence should have been made, read
the indictment, and produced in Court, and
the same been denied.
His Worship:—Was any entry made
log Mr. Andrews?
Mr. Andrews:—None at all, your Worship.
It is most unusual thing, unless there
was some special cause for it, for a vessel
being done before. Our log books say daily
"From one place to another."
Mr. Caldwell:—What is printed in it
has nothing to do with it. The Act did
not say that the log shall be kept direct
travels's stay in port.
His Worship:—Yes. It certainly does
not. Caldwell:—Proceeding to my next
these men are charged under Section

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